

not seem to be, it is possible that he had the identities of these plants reversed. His forma *amphibius* is based in part on remarks of Morong¹, which definitely refer to *P. pulcher*. Graebner evidently copied Bennett's names and descriptions without any inquiry as to upon what they were based.

(To be continued)

THE SEASHORE STATE PARK, A PART OF
CAPE HENRY, VIRGINIA

FRANK E. EGLER

ONLY four statements are appropriate in reply to the Fernaldian philippic upon my *Check List of the Ferns and Flowering Plants of the Seashore State Park, Cape Henry, Virginia*, published by the New York State College of Forestry, February 1, 1942. Fernald's comments appeared in *RHODORA* 44 (526): 342-343, 1942, as part of a footnote.

1. The functions of a state park check list are distinctive in serving both the professional and the amateur botanist. Certain concessions for the latter, especially in species concept and nomenclature, are made at the discretion of the author and cannot meet the approval of all botanists.

2. Of the five "misidentifications" kindly brought to my attention by Fernald, two are in the Cyperaceae, as identified by an authority in that group, and one of the two is due to a difference in species concept. The *Sabatia*, my specimens of which were not seen by Professor Fernald, he indicates as "presumably" another species because of the site in which it was found. The *Rumex* has been rechecked, but I am not yet willing to change the identification. The misidentification of the *Yucca* was my error. The author would appreciate receiving any other comments on these or the remaining 331 cited species of the Seashore State Park.

3. Criticism of the check list as being incomplete, and failing to include or to cite the numerous collections of other investigators from the more inclusive Cape Henry, is strikingly inappropriate. The Seashore State Park is only a small part of Cape

¹ Thomas Morong, Mem. Torr. Club. 3: no. 2: 17 (1893).

Henry. Cape Henry collections would have been cited had they been definitely referable to land now within the park.

4. That I did not cite any of the collections in the Gray Herbarium is partly because of Fernald's own suggestion. On my visit to that herbarium specifically for the purpose of studying these plants I found it impossible to determine the exact localities from the label information on the sheets observed. In bringing this to the attention of Fernald, he indicated that he had not been aware of park boundaries while in the field, and could no longer locate his stations with sufficient preciseness for my purpose.

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[Kearney's map and lucid discussion show that he knew the location of Cape Henry, The Desert and the northeast side of Broad Bay. His many records from those areas are clearly from within the area shown on Egler's map of the Park. Had the author of the Check List cared to spend the several days necessary to hunt out the specimens in the Gray Herbarium, by means of a record of the identifications made available to him, those from within his area (all clearly labeled as from Cape Henry, The Desert, etc. and with habitats noted) could readily have been found and their identifications and exact localities noted. Had he taken the trouble to look up any of them he would have found the data sufficient. That was his responsibility.—M. L. F.]

DEVELOPMENT OF A LEAFY AXIS UPON THE CONES OF A TAMARACK.—A tamarack, *Larix laricina*, bearing a leafy axis upon many of its otherwise usually normal cones was noticed by the writer in the arboretum of the Wisconsin Experimental Game and Fur Farm at Poynette, Columbia County, Wisconsin. The shoots are variable in length, about 1 to 7 cm., and are not brachyblasts. At the time of collecting, in November, 1942, some of the shorter of these shoots had died, but many, including all observed long ones, were still alive. All grew leaves, and all bear axillary and terminal buds.

The tree, about seven feet in height, grows upon a dry, open slope, to which place it was transplanted four or five years ago. A nearby black or bog spruce, *Picea mariana*, has developed leaves over twice the length of those grown in the original condition. Whether or not the tamarack is also exhibiting an inherent ability to respond to an unusual habitat is unknown. Specimens from this tamarack are deposited in Gray Herbarium at Harvard University and in the Herbarium of the University of Wisconsin at Madison.